

## Message Text

PAGE 01 NATO 07053 301817Z

43

ACTION EUR-12

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C O N F I D E N T I A L USNATO 7053

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, NATO, NAC

SUBJECT: FOLLOW-UP TO THE DECEMBER 1975 NAC MINISTERIAL

REF: USNATO 7048 DTG 301400Z DEC 75

THERE FOLLOWS BELOW THE TEXT OF PO/75/150 WHICH CONTAINS  
A LIST OF MINISTERIAL SUBJECTS IDENTIFIED BY SYG LUNS FOR  
FOLLOW-UP DISCUSSION AT A FUTURE NAC MEETING. THIS TEXT  
IS ANNOTATED WITH MISSION COMMENTS. INITIAL DEPARTMENT  
REACTIONS TO OUR COMMENTS WOULD BE WELCOME ALTHOUGH WE  
WILL NOT NEED GUIDANCE UNTIL THIS PO IS INSCRIBED ON A  
FUTURE NAC AGENDA.

BEGIN TEXT:

FOLLOW-UP TO THE MINISTERIAL MEETING OF THE COUNCIL  
ON 11TH AND 12TH DECEMBER, 1975

1. IN THE LIGHT OF THE DISCUSSION AMONG MINISTERS  
AT THEIR MEETING ON 11TH AND 12TH DEC, 1975, THE  
FOLLOWING MATTERS PRESENT THEMSELVES FOR THE CONTINUING  
DISCUSSION OF THE PERMANENT COUNCIL.

(I) MBFR: ON 16TH DEC THE AD HOC GROUP  
IN VIENNA PRESENTED THE ALLIED OPTION III  
PROPOSAL TO THE EAST, AS INSTRUCTED BY  
CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 NATO 07053 301817Z

THE COUNCIL IN MINISTERIAL SESSION. THE  
CONSIDERED EASTERN RESPONSE TO THIS  
PROPOSAL IS NOT EXPECTED UNTIL THE  
NEGOTIATIONS RESUME IN VIENNA AT THE END

OF JANUARY. THE SENIOR POLITICAL COMMITTEE WILL CONTINUE TO KEEP THE NEGOTIATING SITUATION UNDER REVIEW AND MAKE RECOMMENDATIONS TO THE PERMANENT COUNCIL, AS APPROPRIATE. (MISSION COMMENT: TASKING THE SPC WITH RESPONSIBILITY TO "CONTINUE TO KEEP THE NEGOTIATING SITUATION UNDER REVIEW AND MAKE RECOMMENDATIONS TO THE PERMANENT COUNCIL, AS APPROPRIATE" IS IN KEEPING WITH ESTABLISHED PROCEDURES, AND HENCE NOT CONTROVERSIAL. END COMMENT.)

(II) CSCE: THE PERMANENT COUNCIL WILL WISH TO FOLLOW SOVIET PERFORMANCE, PARTICULARLY THEIR OBSERVANCE OF THE BASKET III PROVISIONS OF THE CSCE FINAL ACT. THE POLITICAL COMMITTEE WILL IN DUE COURSE BE PREPARING A FOLLOW-ON REPORT TO THE REPORT IT PRESENTED TO THE COUNCIL BEFORE THE LAST MINISTERIAL MEETING.

(MISSION COMMENT: MINISTERS DID NOT FORMALLY CONSIDER THE CSCE FOLLOW-UP REPORT PREPARED FOR THE NAC IN PERMANENT SESSION, NOR DID MINISTERS SPECIFICALLY, IN THE COMMUNIQUE OR OTHERWISE, COMMISSION A FOLLOW-ON REPORT. HOWEVER, WE SUPPORT THE SYG'S CONSTRUCTIVE INTERPRETATION THAT THE POLITICAL COMMITTEE HAS A MANDATE TO PREPARE A FOLLOW-ON REPORT "IN DUE COURSE", I.E. IN OUR VIEW IN TIME FOR THE MAY MINISTERIAL IN OSLO. END COMMENT.)

(III) THE MEDITERRANEAN: THE PERMANENT COUNCIL WILL CONTINUE ITS CONSULTATIONS ON THIS SUBJECT AS PREVIOUSLY, AND WILL REPORT FURTHER TO THE NEXT MINISTERIAL MEETING. (MISSION COMMENT: WHILE WE SHARE WHAT WE UNDERSTAND TO BE DEPARTMENT VIEWS ABOUT THE MARGINAL UTILITY OF THE MEDITERRANEAN REVIEW AS PRESENTLY CONDUCTED, THIS FOLLOW-UP ACTION IS SPECIFICALLY ORDAINED IN PARA 7 OF THE NAC MINISTERIAL COMMUNIQUE. END COMMENT.) (IV) THE MIDDLE EAST: MINISTERS AGAIN EXPRESSED CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 NATO 07053 301817Z

THEIR CONCERN ABOUT THE SITUATION IN THE MIDDLE EAST, WHICH COULD HAVE DANGEROUS CONSEQUENCES FOR WORLD PEACE AND THUS FOR THE SECURITY OF THE MEMBERS OF THE ALLIANCE. THE COUNCIL IS EXPECTED TO DISCUSS THIS SUBJECT AT ONE OF ITS MEETINGS DURING JANUARY OR FEBRUARY. EXPERTS FROM CAPITALS ARE INVITED TO ATTEND.

(MISSION COMMENT: WE AWAIT DEPARTMENT GUIDANCE ON A SPECIFIC DATE IN FEB WHEN ASSISTANT SECRETARY ATHERTON WILL BE AVAILABLE TO PARTICIPATE IN A REINFORCED NAC CONSULTATION ON THE MIDDLE EAST.

END COMMENT.)

(V) ECONOMIC CONSULTATION: THE PERMANENT COUNCIL WILL WISH TO CONTINUE TO CONSULT ON THE REPERCUSSIONS WHICH ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENTS MAY HAVE ON THE DEFENCE POSTURE AND POTENTIAL OF THE ALLIANCE.

(MISSION COMMENT: WE SUPPORT THIS GENERAL RECOMMENDATION AND WILL SEEK TO IMPLEMENT IT AS SPECIFIC OPPORTUNITIES ARISE.

(VI) STANDARDIZATION AND ARMAMENTS RESEARCH, DEVELOPMENT, PRODUCTION AND PROCUREMENT: FOLLOWING THE DECISIONS TAKEN BY MINISTERS ON THIS SUBJECT I WILL SHORTLY SUBMIT A PO TO THE COUNCIL IN PERMANENT SESSION PROPOSING TERMS OF REFERENCE, TASKS, DURATION AND MEMBERSHIP OF THE AD HOC COMMITTEE ON INTEROPERABILITY WHOSE FORMATION MINISTERS APPROVED. IN ADDITION, I WILL PREPARE A SECOND PO MAKING PROPOSALS FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE INSTRUCTION BY MINISTERS TO THE COUNCIL AND THE COMPETENT BODIES OF THE ALLIANCE FOR THE PURSUIT OF THE STUDY OF QUESTIONS RELATING TO ARMAMENTS AND STANDARDIZATION.

(MISSION COMMENT: SEE REFTTEL.)

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PAGE 04 NATO 07053 301817Z

2. I INTEND TO RAISE THESE FOLLOW-UP MATTERS FOR DISCUSSION AT A FUTURE COUNCIL MEETING.

(SIGNED) JOSEPH M.A.H. LUNS END TEXT.

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<< END OF DOCUMENT >>

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